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 - leather - loaded - 5-speed - V8 - only **\$16,500**



'00 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - Signature series
 - loaded - great buy - silver



'03 AVALANCHE Z66 pkg - like new
 - local trade - still in factory warranty



'03 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - ceramic white paint
 - loaded w/leather and all the features



'02 FORD EXPLORER XLT - special **\$16,900**



'00 BUICK LESABRE - custom - like new
 - great price



'03 ASTRO VAN LS - AT-6 - only 12k miles



'97 JEEP WRANGLER SAHRA - AT-6 - hardtop



'03 IMPALA SEDAN - AT-6 - under factory
 warranty - two to choose from - only **\$14,900**



'01 MAZDA MITA - one owner - 13,000 miles
 - extra clean



'03 F150 SUPER DUTY 4X4 - crew cab
 - extra clean -ariat leather



'01 EXPEDITION - EDDIE BAUER - leather
 - moon roof - loaded



'02 FORD F-150 LARIAT - 4wd - supercab - local
 one owner - extra clean



'03 CHEVROLET S-10 CREW CAB - 4 X 4 -
 AT-6 - like new - only 14k miles - all the extras



'00 CHEV Z-71 - ex cab - sharp - must see - AT-8



'02 CHEVROLET EX CAB 4 X 4
 - only 27,000 miles - local trade



'99 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS loaded
 with features - local trade



'98 FORD F-150 XLT - super cab - AT-8 - great buy

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celebrates 95th
 birthday

INSIDE
 Warrick-Bryan
 plan April 24
 nuptials

INSIDE
 Brantley High
 honors student
 athletes at
 banquet

The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 40

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 18, 2004

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Council names four board members

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council meeting of March 8th included several board appointments. Daniel Stephens and Steve Williams were each appointed to a second six year term on the Elba Industrial Development Board. Charlotte Whitehurst and Jim Gilmer were appointed to terms on the Elba Planning & Zoning Board. Whitehurst's term is a six year term and Gilmer is filling an unexpired term, resulting from a death. He will serve until

2007. Police Chief R. W. Whitworth told council member the new K-9 dog is working out great. He also joined with Mayor James Grimes in honoring Charles Webb for his efforts on behalf the people of Coffee County. "Coffee County never had a friend like Charles Webb," the council and visitors were told. The council approved a housekeeping resolution allowing the mayor and city clerk to sign checks dispensing funds from Elba's share of state oil and gas funds.

Monthly bills totaling \$123,458.28 were approved for payment. This included \$14,975 to ADECA, \$17,015.31 transfer to the Elba City Schools, \$14,437.63 to Waste Management for garbage pick-up, \$6,655.42 to the coffee County landfill and a \$26,450.01 workers compensation insurance payment. Mayor Grimes also announced the approval of a \$5400 ADECA grant for a generator to service a police radio repeater located away from the downtown station.



WEBB HONORED - Charles Webb, center, was honored in a surprise presentation by the Elba City Council recently. He was presented a plaque as appreciation for his dedication and loyal dedication to the people of Coffee County. Webb has served as Emergency Management Director and continues to head up the 911 project in Coffee County. Making the presentation are left, Police Chief R. W. Whitworth and right, Mayor James Grimes.

Project ChildSafe comes to Elba Saturday, April 10

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Police Department announces the kickoff for Project ChildSafe Saturday, April 10, from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m.

Project ChildSafe is a national firearm safety education and gun lock program which promotes safe firearm handling and secure storage practices among all firearm owners. The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) recently partnered with local law enforcement agencies including the Elba Police Department, Coffee County Sheriff's Department, New Brockton Police Department, Kinston Police Department and Enterprise Police Department to distribute free gun locks in Coffee County.

Throughout the State of Alabama, more than 361,000 free gun locks will be distributed. Project ChildSafe, which is funded by a \$50 million grant from the Department of Justice, will provide nearly 20 million free gunlocks and firearm safety educational materials to families in all 50 states, the five U.S. territories and District of Columbia. It is an expansion of Project HomeSafe.

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS



SISTERS ENJOY VISIT—Sisters Mamie Bryan, Eulalia Williams, Elba, and Pearl Powell, Florida, recently had a nostalgic visit in the home of Douglas and Glenda Williams, Highland Drive, Elba. One of the bedrooms in the Williams' home contains the bed their parents slept on. Also an antique Singer treadle sewing machine that the ladies had sewn on as children was opened for them to see and try sewing on again. The sisters were touched to see a Christmas card their mother had sent one of them over sixty years ago, and a framed note written by their father that read, "When this you see remember me, though many a mile apart we be." The sisters and one brother, Mark Bryan of Apopka, FL, are the only surviving of 18 children of Felix and Evie Lee Bryan, former residents of Elba and Opp.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Richard Kyles - Associate Pastor
Greater New Zion Baptist Church

God is love and has demonstrated that love is in everything he does. Paul compares faith, hope, and love, and concludes that "the greatest of these is Love." We are totally incapable of loving either God or others - a condition that must be corrected by God before we can love. The Bible's ways of describing this process of correction are numerous: circumcision of the heart, God's writing his laws on our heart, God's substituting a heart of flesh for a heart of stone, and being born again by the spirit, removing old clothing and replacing it with new, dying to a sinful life and resurrecting to a new one, and moving out of darkness into light, until that happens, we cannot love.

Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart. Love is a response of the believers' whole heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Our love, however, is easily misdirected. It's object tends to become the creation rather than the Creator.

It loses sight of the eternality for the temporal, it focuses on the self, often to exclude God and others. We become idolaters, focusing apart or all of our love elsewhere. The command to love others is based on how God has loved us. Since believers have been the recipients of love, they must love. Christ lived down as life for us, we must be willing to lay down our lives for our brothers.

God's love spreads abroad. We cannot continue to mistreat our fellow man, and do things that are not pleasing in God's eyesight. God lead us in our everyday life, we will see this love being manifested in our world. Let us love one another!

Attend the church of your choice this Sunday.

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA

897-2006

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 4:1-18
*****THINKING OF YOU, PRAYING FOR YOU:** Mattie Belcher, Ruth Belcher, Johnnie R. Belcher, Lizzie Tyson, Ann Tyson, Ernest Paul Belcher, Annie Williams, Kary Nell Horstead, Lovie Hooks, Rev. Charles Lane, Glarene Jones.

*****MARCH BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**
Freddie L. Robinson - March 16, Mark Whitfield - March 16, Larry and Lorene Cole (W.A.), Bernice Leonard - March 14.

*****YOUTH REVIVAL**
SHADY GROVE A.M.E. CHURCH - Elba, Alabama will be March 22-24, 2004 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The guest minister will be Elder Jimmy Jackson, Spring Hill, Alabama.

*****ANNUAL FAMILY & FRIENDS WAY** to be held at the Bethlehem Baptist Church, Elba, AL (Brooksville Community) March 28, at 3:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. J.C. Fryer, Jr., pastor of the Pine Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Phenix City, Alabama.

*****THE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**, of Glenwood, Alabama will observe their 10th Family & Friends Way, Sunday, March 28 at 2:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. David Boykins, pastor of Clayhill Baptist Church, Troy, Alabama.

*****GREATER NEW ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH** to hold their 18th Pastor's Anniversary for Rev. W.L. Peterson, pastor on Sunday, April 4 at 3:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. David from Unity Missionary Baptist Church in Haynesville, Alabama.

*****KENNETH DANIELS** of Covington Georgia (formerly of Elba) visited Eria Lindsey Belcher recently. Mr. Daniels is principal of Sharp Learning Center in Covington.



Center of attraction I'm 95! Who? Mrs. Bernice Leonard Mrs. Bernice Leonard of Elba, Alabama formerly of Eclectic, Alabama celebrated her 95th birthday Sunday, March 14, at the Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church dining hall.

She is the only one of the them living now. She has served as deacon and Sunday School Superintendent and teacher at First Baptist Greater Washington Park, Montgomery, Alabama, for the past ten years. He grew up in the St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church in Glenwood.



James E. Long James Long has been the Alabama Assistant Attorney General and DHR legal counsel.

for the past twenty years. He is a 1979 graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law. He has legal expertise in issues involving child abuse/neglect, child custody, termination of parental rights, child welfare, adult protective service, child and adult care licensing, bankruptcy, and federal benefit programs.

He is a frequent presenter at training conferences for judges, lawyers, social workers, and day care workers.

He specializes in class actions and major litigation in state and federal court.

He was born August 22, 1954 in Troy, Alabama. His parents are Joseph E. Long (deceased) and Inez Belcher Long. He grew up in Glenwood, Alabama and attended Woodford Avenue High School in Luverne.

He graduated salutatorian from Brantley High School in 1972. Since 1983, he has lived in Montgomery, Alabama. He is married to Brenda Sanders Long and has a daughter, Kimberly Smith, who attends Alabama State University, and a granddaughter Kasi Smith, age 3.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Q.P. Truett Family to be in concert at Country Cathedral

Q.P. Truett Family from Plant City, Florida will be ministering at Country Cathedral, located on U.S. Hwy 84 E. between Opp and Elba, Sunday, March 21, 2004. The Truett Family will be singing and Rick Truett will be preaching in the 11:00 am and 6:00 pm services.

Deadline for church news is MONDAY!

Gospel Concert to be held at Living Word Church

A Gospel Concert will be held at "Living Word Church" "Old Camp Sharon" between Henderson and Glenwood, on Bricken Rd. off of County Road 6.

The featured singer is Chester Fourtune, from Brundidge, AL. Other singers are welcome.

For more information call 566-7124.

Hot Cross Buns to be available at St. John Catholic Church

"Hot Cross Buns! Hot Cross Buns! Special order \$5.00 per dozen. Hot Cross Buns! Available during Lent, February 25-April 11. St. John Catholic Church for Relay for Life, American Cancer Society, Also available are cute little "Cancer Critters" for \$5, \$3 of that going to fight cancer. Call 347-0533 or 347-2110 to order.

Benefit Gospel Singing & Bar-B-Q to be held at Shiloh Baptist Church

Benefit Bar-B-Q and gospel singing will be held March 20, 2004 at Shiloh Baptist Church for someone who has had an extended illness. Bar-B-Q plates will be ready at 5:30 p.m. Donations will be accepted. Singing will start at 7:00 p.m. There will be various singing groups and musicians. Names to be announced later. For more information call 897-5037 or 897-2946.

Wiregrass Hospice Inc., Grief Support Group to meet

Wiregrass Hospice, Inc. invites you to join us for our monthly grief support group. It will be held on Monday, April 12, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Citizens Bank at 301 S. Edwards St., Enterprise, AL. This group is open to anyone in the community who is grieving the death of a loved one. You do not have to be receiving services from Wiregrass Hospice. For more information, please contact Peggy Cupulsky at 347-3353.

Miss Warrick and Mr. Bryan to wed on Saturday, April 24



Miss Warrick & Mr. Bryan



Melanie Waddail & Karl Bledsoe

Melanie Waddail and Karl Bledsoe to be united in marriage March 20

Melanie Waddail and Karl Bledsoe, along with their parents and daughter Ashleigh Waddail, announce their engagement and forthcoming marriage.

Melanie is the daughter of Mr. W. W. Rainer, Sr. and the late JoAnne Thomson Rainer. Her grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Rainer Sr. and the late Mr. and Mrs. K.D. Thomson of Elba.

Karl is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bledsoe Sr. of Andalusia. His grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Pelham and the late Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Bledsoe of Andalusia.

Both are employed as teachers in the Elba City School System.

The wedding will be held at First United Methodist Church of Elba on Saturday, March 20, 2004 at one-thirty in the afternoon.

All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Let us order your rubber stamp!

THE ELBA CLIPPER

897-2823

Clyde L. Sadle

THE PERSON WHO INVENTED TABLE MANNERS...

MARSH INSURANCE AGENCY

Serving Elba's Insurance Needs Since 1947
137 N. Court St., Elba, Alabama
897-2981

Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Warrick of Brantley proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Erica Suzanne, to Chad Wesley Bryan, the son of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Bryan Jr. of Brantley, AL.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Mrs. Ruth Warrick and the late Mr. Joe M. Warrick of Brantley, and of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Lewis of Luverne.

Miss Warrick is a 1998 graduate of Brantley High School and a 2002 Graduate of the University of Alabama, where she received a B.S. in Accounting. She is currently employed in Montgomery, AL as an Assistant Auditor.

The prospective bridegroom is the grandson of Mr. George M. Bryan, Sr. and the late Mrs. Talatha Jones Bryan of Brantley, and of Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey Reynolds Jeffcoat of Rutledge.

Mr. Bryan is a 1996 graduate of Brantley High School, a 2000 graduate of the University of Alabama, where he received a B.S. in History and English, and a 2003 graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law. He is currently employed with a law firm in Montgomery specializing in civil litigation.

The ceremony is scheduled for April 24, 2004 at 4:00 in the afternoon at the Elba Church of Christ. No local invitations will be sent, and all family and friends are invited to attend.

Elba Nursing Home to hold first quarterly Family Counseling

The Elba Nursing Home will be having the first quarterly Family Council meeting of 2004 on March 23 at 5:00 p.m. in the facility conference room. Our guest speaker will be Clayton Davis, Esq., with the Southeast Alabama Region Council on Aging. He will discuss Medicare and Medicaid in a long-term care environment. The public is invited to attend.

EOCC offers new special interest course

Enterprise-Ozark Community College offers a new special interest course, Guiding Kids on the Internet, which will provide general overview of good preventive practices that will help keep home/Internet access safe for the entire family. There will be a \$20.00 fee for the two session class which will meet on Mondays, April 19-26 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. From the registration deadline is April 12. For more information, call 347-2623, ext. 2234.

Deadline for Social News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

News is Monday!

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News is Monday!

Smith-Morrow united in holy matrimony at Elba United Methodist Church

The Elba United Methodist Church was the setting for the marriage of Gypsy Lynn Morrow of Elba, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Lubert Morrow Sr., to Andy Wayne Smith of Gantt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Wayne Smith of Opp. The ceremony was performed by Reverend John Baxter on Saturday, December 6, 2003, at 11:00 in the morning in the presence of the immediate families.

The sanctuary was decorated for the Christmas season with massed arrangements of red poinsettias outlining the altar and swags of greenery adorning the choir loft wall. Window bibles held red candles in hurricane shades and additional poinsettias.

For the ceremony a large arrangement of white lilies, roses, peonies, and tulips was placed on the communion table with a smaller, similar bouquet on the registry table.

Guests were registered by Mrs. Jake Lubert Morrow Jr. the bride's registry was placed next to the old Blue family bible, which was opened to the page where generation of births, deaths, and marriages had been recorded. Placed on the Bible was the gold pocket watch, chain and watch fob of the family patriarch, Dr. Josephus Dixon Blue, and a handmade linen-handkerchief belonging to his wife, Ada Harp Blue, the bride's great-grandmother.

The hour of the wedding was marked by the bride's young nephews, Jake Lubert Morrow III, Charles Fenwick Morrow, and Mitchell Foley Morrow, who rang the church bell, lit the wedding and altar candles, turned on the Christmas tree and lit the advent wreath.

The nomination letter states that Mrs. Miller is dedicated to her clients as she feels she is the only link that some families have to obtaining financial support from their non-custodial parent. She's willing to help co-workers with any problems they may have. She comes to work early and always stays late. Mrs. Miller is diligent in locating absent parents and encouraging them to work. She will help our custodial parents with obtaining employment and other services. She has an excellent working relationship with the District Attorney's office and the Circuit Clerk's office. Terry Miller has worked for DHR for twenty-seven years, 11 of those years in the Child Support program. She has maintained her compassion and sincerity throughout her career. She has been the worker-in-charge of Child Support as well as carrying her own caseload since January of 2003. She carries a caseload, as well as having supervisory responsibilities.

In addition to Terry Miller receiving the Child Support worker of the year award, Pike County DHR was honored at the Alabama Child Support Association Conference for having the HIGHEST RATE OF PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT FOR A CATEGORY III COUNTY. This award means that Pike County DHR, DA and Circuit Clerk staff truly have achieved a teamwork approach to successfully serving Pike County families!

The Friends of the Enterprise Public Library is holding its spring book sale Thursday, April 1, from 9:00 am to 6:30 pm at the library.

Popular fiction, nonfiction, children and young adult books, as well as CDs, videos, and audio cassettes will be on sale. Donations prior to the sale are welcome. The Friends cannot accept textbooks, incomplete encyclopedias sets, or Readers' Digest Condensed Books.

"This is our big contest of the year," says Executive Director Mark Schramm. "We trust our prizes will encourage new poets to share their talent." The deadline for entering is April 10, 2004.

Book sale to be held at Enterprise Public Library

Poem contest for poets available

Write a poem and win the \$1,000,000 grand prize!

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Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wayne Smith

linen overlays, Rose bowls filled with red roses and baby's breath centered the tables and were encircled with wide gold ribbons. Old-fashioned embroidered napkins were tied with narrow red ribbons and brass wedding bells. Silver goblets and tumblers marked the places. After the reception the newlyweds left for a honeymoon cruise to the Caribbean. Their car was carefully decorated by the young nieces and nephews who were jumping up and down with glees as the car drove past with streamers of tin cans.

Departing guests were given small gold bags of homemade ten cakes as a favor from the wedding couple who is now at home in Gantt.

Hostesses for the reception were Pat Williams, Ernest Boyd, Maggie Dean Boyd, Susie Stokes, Kathy Smith, Becky Hayes, Lois Holl, Freddie Pearce, Gloria Moseley, Jana Kelley, Sylvia Brown, Mrs. Donna Maraman of Grady, Mrs. Judy Chancey, and Candace Vaughn and others.

Tables for dining were scattered throughout the reception rooms each covered in white

lilies, roses, peonies, and tulips was placed on the communion table with a smaller, similar bouquet on the registry table.

Guests were registered by Mrs. Jake Lubert Morrow Jr. the bride's registry was placed next to the old Blue family bible, which was opened to the page where generation of births, deaths, and marriages had been recorded. Placed on the Bible was the gold pocket watch, chain and watch fob of the family patriarch, Dr. Josephus Dixon Blue, and a handmade linen-handkerchief belonging to his wife, Ada Harp Blue, the bride's great-grandmother.

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Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN ALBARTON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	FAVOR BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	ASSEMBLY OF GOD Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	KINSTON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	MUSTARD SEED FOUNDATION Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	WISDOM ASSEMBLY OF GOD Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	WOODSTOCK CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.	ZION COMMUNITY CHURCH Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m. Web Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.
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Sponsored by:
SouthTrust Bank & The Elba Clipper

SPORTS

Views from... The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We have some very tall pine trees in our yard and over the course of the winter it looked like every single pine cone on every tree made its way to the ground. I have put off raking up the pine cones for several weeks, but last week came up with an idea and offered Melanie a penny for every cone she would pick up. I figured with at least a few hundred cones she could make a couple of dollars, but she just laughed and the smile never left her face as my offer went all the way up to a dime for each cone. Years ago I could have tricked her and gotten some cheap help with the project, but now that she has grown up she knows better and I guess Dad will have to do it himself. Knowledge isn't always a good thing!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** The Elba Tigers dropped two of three games last week in baseball to move their record to 2-4 for the season, but at least the game they won was an area game and could help the Tigers as they battle for a post-season playoff berth. The win was a 14-4 romp past Abbeville, and in the win the Tigers battered Yellow Jacket pitchers for 19 hits, including two home-runs, and scored almost at will. Derrick Thomas got the win on the mound and now has recorded both Elba wins, and the senior lefty appears to be getting more comfortable every time he takes the mound. The Tigers biggest problem last week was a lack of defense. The Tigers committed fifteen errors in the three games, and as Coach Grimes stated late in the week, this year's team isn't talented enough to overcome errors and must improve or the losses could begin to mount. After six games there are no more rookies on the Elba baseball team, and the time has come for the team's best nine players to step forward and lead the way for the remainder of the season. There is a lot of baseball left on the schedule, and the time has come for these guys to regroup and come together as a team.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers went 1-1 in regular season action and dropped two straight in a weekend tournament to fall to 2-5 for the season. Starting pitcher Stephanie Baxley missed two games with an injured leg and was far from being over-powered in her outings on the pitching rubber, and even though the Lady Tigers defeated New Brockton without their ace on the rubber, the Lady Tigers are simply not good enough yet to win against stiff competition unless Baxley is at her best. After seven games it doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out what is wrong with the Elba girls. One problem is a lack of hitting up and down the batting order, while the other is a lack of consistent play in the field. The Lady Tigers are managing only a handful of hits each game and during their three game losing streak scored three, four and three runs, while over on defense the Lady Tigers committed crucial errors to put runners on base, and then made mental mistakes that allowed the runners to advance and eventually score. I honestly think the biggest thing this bunch needs is a big shot of confidence, and believe it will come before long and the wins will return.

*** Elba High School was expected to formally announce its head football vacancy this week and that means the process of hiring a new coach has finally gotten underway. I have been told that over thirty coaches have contacted the school in regards to the opening, and it will be interesting to see just how many actually apply for the job. I still hear rumors almost daily about how certain coaches have the inside track to get the position, and the funny thing is that most of the time the rumor is about a different coach. I for one will be glad when the whole process is over and the Elba High football program will have a leader that will work hard to return the Tigers back to their glory days of the past. The job won't be easy, no matter who gets the job, but if we all join together and give our support I am convinced Elba Tiger football will be back on top very soon.

*** Greg Brunson and his wife went up to Brantley's football banquet last week and came back to town with a plaque, a team jacket and a team shirt in appreciation for the job they have done over the years in covering the Brantley Bulldogs. Greg has been a faithful follower of the Bulldogs for many years and was beaming with pride over the gifts and kind words that he received at the banquet. The only bad thing about the jacket is that as much as he likes to argue with officials he cannot wear the jacket at the games, because the refs may think he is a coach and throw a flag.

*** In closing...The NCAA basketball pairings came out late Sunday afternoon and that means it is time to print out a bracket and get ready to stay up late watching college basketball. I don't watch a lot of games during the regular season, but always enjoy the tournament and sometimes even get caught up in the "March Madness." My pre-tourney picks have to be Stanford, Duke, Kentucky and Connecticut, while sleepers include Illinois, Mississippi State, Oklahoma State and Texas. You mark your picks and after it is over we can see who was right.

Elba Tiger Lift-A-Thon

Saturday, April 17 • 4 p.m.
Elba High School Gymnasium
Sponsored by The Elba Athletic Club

POLICE PATROLMAN

The City of Elba, Alabama is accepting applications for the position of Police Patrolman.

Minimum Qualifications:

- High school graduate or GED.
- Must possess a valid Alabama Drivers License.
- Must possess a good driving record.
- Must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- Must meet the minimum standards for law enforcement officers as established by Alabama Law. Applicants that are certified by the Alabama Peace Officer's Standards and Training Commission are preferred.
- All applicants are subject to drug screening and background check.

Pay Range:
\$9.13 to \$13.94 per hour.

Benefits:

- Local Government Health Insurance Plan administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama
- Participation in State Retirement
- Vacation and sick leave

Application Instructions:
Applications can be obtained by contacting Elba Police Department at 304 Simmons Street, Elba, Alabama between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Closing Date:
Applications will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on the 26th day of March, 2004.

The City of Elba is an Equal Opportunity Employer

At annual football awards banquet Brantley High School honors student-athletes

By Greg Brunson, Sportswriter

Brantley High School held its annual "Football Banquet" on March 9, 2004, to honor the members of its 12-1 football team and cheerleaders.

The banquet opened with a welcome from head coach David Lowery, and after a blessing by Coach Kane Odum a fine dinner of chicken fingers and all the trimmings was enjoyed by the overflow crowd.

During the dinner, the players and guests were entertained by a highlight reel of the 2004 season.

The first honorees of the evening were the cheerleaders, as Kelley Kilcrease and Kim Lowery presented awards and a slide show from the season. Jerry Bryan and Dorissa Carter received special recognition as the squad's only seniors.

The next order of business was a complete surprise as Chad Kilcrease, president of the Brantley Quarterback Club, presented myself and my wife, Janet, a plaque, a team jacket and a team shirt in appreciation for the coverage the Bulldogs received from The Elba Clipper. All-SEAC awards were presented to Marcel Stampis, Jamyal Jones, Chad Williamson, Cedric Jones, Delange Harris and Channing Spivey, while the position coaches handed out special awards to linemen, receivers and backs and Coach Lowery then presented varsity letters and closed the evening with an inspirational speech.

(Thank you to the Brantley family for including myself and Janet in this special night.)



BRANTLEY BULLDOG SENIORS. Senior members of the 2003 Brantley Bulldog football were honored at last week's banquet. Pictured above are (l-r) Jamyal Jones, Cedric Jones, Lecane Phillips, Delange Harris, Garrett Godwin, Cassini Wiley, Kane McKinney, Channing Spivey, Marcel Stampis and Chad Williamson.



ALL-SEAC HONOREES. Named to the All-South East Alabama Conference team for the 2003 high school football season were (l-r) Marcel Stampis, Jamyal Jones, Chad Williamson, Cedric Jones, Delange Harris and Channing Spivey.



BRANTLEY BULLDOG COACHING STAFF. Members of the Brantley Bulldog coaching staff honored at the banquet included (l-r) David Lowery, Stan Haws, Andrew Kilcrease, Ashley Kilcrease and Kris Odum.

Varsity & Junior Varsity *BASEBALL* *SOFTBALL* Diamond Dustings

*** BASEBALL ***

New Brockton falls hard to Floral 14-5

The New Brockton Gamecocks saw an early lead vanish under a furious Floral rally as the visiting Wildcats scratched out a 14-5 win. Last Monday afternoon in New Brockton, Trent Baxley had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead the Gamecocks at the plate, while Drew Donaldson added 2 hits and scored 1 run. Tanner Medley was tagged with the loss.

Kinston Bulldogs outscore Gamecocks 12-6

The Kinston Bulldogs came out swinging the bats Thursday night and rolled to a wild 12-6 win over the New Brockton Gamecocks, in Kinston. Shawn Miller got 3 hits and scored 3 runs to lead the Bulldogs at the plate, while Jeremy Driver added 2 hits. Dr. Wiggins also added 2 hits and got the win on the mound. Trent Baxley and Drew Donaldson both had 2 hits to lead the Gamecocks.

Kinston JV ease past New Brockton 8-5

The Kinston Junior Varsity Bulldogs got in the win column Thursday afternoon by defeating the New Brockton Gamecocks 8-5, in Kinston. Aaron Jacobs had 2 hits to lead the Bulldogs, while Nick Weeks got the win on the mound.

Gamecocks slam Samson 4-1 to snap streak

The New Brockton Gamecocks ended their 10-game losing streak Friday afternoon by posting an exciting 4-1 win over the Samson Tigers, in Samson. Heath Parker tossed a 5-hitter and struck out 13 batters to get the win for the Gamecocks on the mound, while Parker was also New Brockton's main weapon at the plate as he collected 3 hits and one run. Justin Thomas added 1 hit and an RBI for the Gamecocks.

*** SOFTBALL ***

Kinston Lady Bulldogs flatten Floral 12-2

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs continued their winning ways Friday afternoon with an easy 12-2 win over the Floral Lady Wildcats. Kaleigh Sanders had 2 hits and got the win on the pitching rubber to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Heather Marlow added 3 hits.

SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE TEAM!

SPORTS

Grab key area win

Tigers swat 'Jackets 14-4

The Elba Tigers pounded out 19 hits, including 2 doubles and 2 home-runs, to pound the Abbeville Yellow Jackets 14-4, Thursday afternoon in a key area game, in Abbeville.

The Tigers wasted three hits over the first two innings and were locked up in a 0-0 deadlock after two innings of play, but broke through in the third inning and combined seven hits with one hit batter and one Abbeville error to plate eight runs and pulled out to an 8-0 lead.

LaRay Williams ripped a triple to ignite the third inning fireworks for the Tigers, while Matthew Curran followed with an RBI single and moved to third on a one-out single by Derrick Thomas. Adam Spicer launched a three-run homer to put the Tigers on top 4-0, but Elba was far from through as the Tigers plated four runs with two outs to up their advantage to 8-0.

Clark Skinner and Aaron Harelson had key two hits to keep the big inning alive, while Matthew Curran delivered a two-run double to cap the eighth inning that left the Tigers in complete command.

A double by Derrick Thomas and a two-run homer by Brandon Wilson helped Elba score four runs in the top of the fourth as the Tigers extended

their lead to 12-0, but Abbeville came to life in the bottom of the frame and combined four hits and scored 1 run. Ryan Gibbs and Aaron Harelson both had 2 hits and scored 2 runs, while collecting 1 hit were Ralston Moore, Adam Spicer and Brandon Wilson. Derrick Thomas got the win on the mound as he pitched 6 innings and allowed 3 earned runs on 5 hits and 1 walk, while striking out 10 batters.

E 008 402 - 14 19 3
A 000 400 - 4 5 1
LaRay Williams, Derrick Thomas and Clark Skinner all

Elba Tigers drop road games to Luverne and Opp, record slides to 2-4

The Elba Tigers continued their early-season struggles last week with road losses to Luverne 9-7 and Opp 12-0, as their record for the season slipped to 2-4.

"We are hitting the ball pretty well and our pitchers are not doing a bad job," stated Coach Wynn Grimes, "but we are making way too many errors to win consistently and until we learn how to stop the ball and throw somebody out we will continue to struggle to win games. The win over Abbeville was a big win because it was an area game and one of our goals is to make the playoffs, but we can't just win a game here and there if we hope to be a contender by the end of the season. If we will keep hitting the ball and settle down in the field maybe we can win some games down the line. However, playing defense will be the key to winning."

Following are highlights of last week's games:

LUVERNE 9 ELBA 7

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and saw a late rally fall short last Tuesday night in a 9-7 loss to Luverne, in Luverne.

The Tigers grabbed an early 1-0 lead on back-to-back singles by LaRay Williams and Matthew Curran, followed by a one-out sacrifice fly by Derrick Thomas, only to see Luverne rally and score five runs in the next two innings to take a 5-1 advantage after two innings of play.

LaRay Williams singled and later scored on an error as Elba pulled within 5-2 in the top of the third, and the Tigers crept within 5-3 in the third when Clark Skinner reached on an error and later scored on yet another Luverne miscue.

Luverne pushed across a run in the bottom of the fifth to push its lead to 6-3, but Elba was still very much alive and rallied to score four runs in the sixth to regain the lead at 7-6. A one-out single by Aaron Harelson ignited the late Elba rally, while LaRay Williams and Matthew Curran followed with singles, and after an error off the bat of Ralston Moore, Adam Spicer ripped a two-run double to put Elba back on top.

Luverne didn't stay down for long, however, as the home team combined three hits with two hit batters to plate three runs and moved back ahead 9-7 heading into the top of the seventh and then held on to claim the wild win.

LaRay Williams had 4 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Matthew Curran added 2 hits and scored 1 run and Derrick Thomas, Adam Spicer and Aaron Harelson all added 1 hit. Adam Spicer pitched 1 inning and allowed 2 earned runs to take the loss on the mound, while Derrick Thomas, Clark Skinner and Lance Sutley all saw action.

OPP 12 ELBA 0

The Elba Tigers traveled to Opp Friday afternoon and were blanked by the Opp Bobcats 12-0.

The Bobcats combined three hits with two Elba errors to jump out to a 4-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, and then pulled one run on two hits in the second to stretch their lead to 5-0.

Opp added three runs in the third and four in the fourth to pull away and posted the easy 12-0 win over the Tigers.

LaRay Williams, Ralston Moore, Derrick Thomas, Adam Spicer and Chase Boutwell all had 1 hit to lead Elba, which left seven runners on base in five innings.

Varsity & Junior Varsity *Baseball* *Softball* SCHEDULES

BASEBALL

THURSDAY, MARCH 18
Samson at Elba (JV-V) 4:00

FRIDAY, MARCH 19
Opp at Elba (JV) 4:00

TUESDAY, MARCH 23
Zion Chapel at Elba (V-DH) 1:00

SOFTBALL

THURSDAY, MARCH 18
Opp at Elba (V) 4:00

FRIDAY, MARCH 19
Brantley at Floral (V) 3:30

Kinston at Pleasant Home (JV-V) 4:00

MONDAY, MARCH 22
Samson at Kinston (JV) 4:30

TUESDAY, MARCH 23
McKenzie at Brantley (V) 4:00

**GREENVILLE 9
ELBA 3**

The Elba Lady Tigers fell behind early and never recovered Saturday morning in a 9-3 loss to Greenville.

The Lady Tigers failed to manage a hit in the opening two innings, but Greenville had better success at the plate and combined three hits with three walks to plate two runs in both the second and third innings to jump out to an early 4-0 lead. Greta Robinson reached on a bunt single and scored on an RBI single by Lacy Carlile to get Elba on the scoreboard in the bottom of the third. However, the Lady Tigers missed out on a chance to cut further into the Greenville lead when Carlile was thrown out at the plate trying to score on a double by Michelle Carpenter. Greenville used two walks and two Elba errors to extend its lead to 5-1 in the top of the fourth, then took command in the fifth as it scored four runs to open up a 9-1 advantage. Haleigh Duncan ripped a two-run double in the bottom of the fifth to rally the Lady Tigers, but the late rally fell far short as Elba took the loss 9-3.

Lacy Carlile had 2 hits to lead Elba, while Michelle Carpenter, Haleigh Duncan, Mallory Allen and Greta Robinson all added 1 hit. Lacy Carlile was tagged with the loss as she allowed 7 earned runs on 5 hits and 8 walks.



LADY TIGER LAYS DOWN A BUNT....Elba Lady Tiger Mallory Allen (4) lays down a bunt during a recent win over New Brockton. The Lady Tigers will return home Thursday afternoon when they host the Opp Lady Bobcats at 4:00 PM. The Lady Tigers dropped three of four games last week as their record slipped to 2-5 for the season.

Get past Lady Gamecocks

Elba Lady Tigers win one and lose one

The Elba Lady Tigers hit the field twice last week in regular season action and posted one win and one loss to see their season record slip to 2-3.

The Lady Tigers hosted New Brockton on Tuesday night and claimed a 9-3 win, then traveled to Andalusia on Thursday and suffered a 7-3 loss.

Following are highlights of both games:

ELBA 9 N.B. 3

The Elba Lady Tigers jumped out to an early 6-0 lead and coasted in with a 9-3 win over the New Brockton Lady Gamecocks, last Tuesday night in Elba. Whitney Lawford ripped a two-run double in the bottom of the first to give the Lady Tigers an early 2-0 lead, and Lawford then scored on a passed ball as Elba's lead grew to 3-0 after one inning. Greta Robinson led off the second with a bunt single to ignite another Elba rally, and the Lady Tigers combined the hit with one single and two errors to plate three more runs and extend their lead to 6-0. Valerie Hutcherson had an RBI single in the top of the fourth to get the

win.

The Elba Lady Tigers traveled to Andalusia on Thursday afternoon and suffered a 7-3 loss to the Andalusia Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Tigers jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the top of the first when Michelle Carpenter reached on a walk, moved around to third on two passed

balls and scored on a sacrifice fly by Haleigh Duncan. The Elba lead didn't last for long, however, as Andalusia combined 1 hit with two errors to plate two runs and after one inning the Lady Bulldogs were on top to stay at 2-1. Stephanie Baxley added a lone run in the second without a hit to stretch its lead to 3-1, then used one hit and an Elba error to push across another run in the bottom of the third to push its lead to 4-1. Stephanie Baxley came through with an RBI single and Jessica Danford added an RBI double in the top of the fourth as the Lady Tigers cut the Andalusia lead to 4-3, but the Lady Bulldogs combined two hits with three Elba errors over the next two innings to move on top 7-3 and held on as Elba lost to Andalusia for the second time in two weeks.

Lacy Carlile had 2 hits to lead Elba, while Haleigh Duncan, Krystan Parker, Whitney Lawford, Kristen Barnes, Stephanie Baxley, Jessica Danford and Greta Robinson all added 1 hit. Stephanie Baxley was saddled with the loss as she allowed 2 earned runs on 4 hits and struck out 9 batters.

**ANDY 7
ELBA 3**

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balls and scored on a sacrifice fly by Haleigh Duncan. The Elba lead didn't last for long, however, as Andalusia combined 1 hit with two errors to plate two runs and after one inning the Lady Bulldogs were on top to stay at 2-1. Stephanie Baxley added a lone run in the second without a hit to stretch its lead to 3-1, then used one hit and an Elba error to push across another run in the bottom of the third to push its lead to 4-1. Stephanie Baxley came through with an RBI single and Jessica Danford added an RBI double in the top of the fourth as the Lady Tigers cut the Andalusia lead to 4-3, but the Lady Bulldogs combined two hits with three Elba errors over the next two innings to move on top 7-3 and held on as Elba lost to Andalusia for the second time in two weeks.

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**THOMASVILLE 17
ELBA 4**

The Elba Lady Tigers carried a 2-1 lead into the fourth inning, but saw Thomasville rally to plate 16 runs in its final three at-bats as the Lady Tigers suffered a lopsided 17-4 loss, in the opening round of the tournament on Friday afternoon.

Thomasville pushed across an unearned run in the top of the second to take a 1-0 lead, but the Lady Tigers rallied in the bottom of the third and scored twice to move on top 2-1. Lacy Carlile, Michelle Carpenter and Haleigh Duncan all ripped singles to open the inning, and after Carlile was thrown out attempting to steal second, Carpenter and Duncan both raced home on a Thomasville error. Thomasville combined three hits with three walks and two errors to regain the lead at 6-2 in the top of the fourth, then added a lone run in the fifth and blew the game open on five hits and two hits and four errors. The Lady Tigers scored twice in their final at-bat on hits by Lacy Carlile and Haleigh Duncan, but it was too little, too late, as Elba came out on the short end of the 17-4 defeat.

Haleigh Duncan had 2 hits and scored 1 run to lead Elba, while Lacy Carlile added 2 hits

every time we hit the field we can still be a very good team by the time the area tournament rolls around. We are down, but we aren't about to give up just because we have lost a couple of games."

Following are highlights of the two tournament games:

**THOMASVILLE 17
ELBA 4**

The Elba Lady Tigers carried a 2-1 lead into the fourth inning, but saw Thomasville rally to plate 16 runs in its final three at-bats as the Lady Tigers suffered a lopsided 17-4 loss, in the opening round of the tournament on Friday afternoon.

Thomasville pushed across an unearned run in the top of the second to take a 1-0 lead, but the Lady Tigers rallied in the bottom of the third and scored twice to move on top 2-1. Lacy Carlile, Michelle Carpenter and Haleigh Duncan all ripped singles to open the inning, and after Carlile was thrown out attempting to steal second, Carpenter and Duncan both raced home on a Thomasville error. Thomasville combined three hits with three walks and two errors to regain the lead at 6-2 in the top of the fourth, then added a lone run in the fifth and blew the game open on five hits and two hits and four errors. The Lady Tigers scored twice in their final at-bat on hits by Lacy Carlile and Haleigh Duncan, but it was too little, too late, as Elba came out on the short end of the 17-4 defeat.

Haleigh Duncan had 2 hits and scored 1 run to lead Elba, while Lacy Carlile added 2 hits

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Deadline to Enter: Wed., March 31st

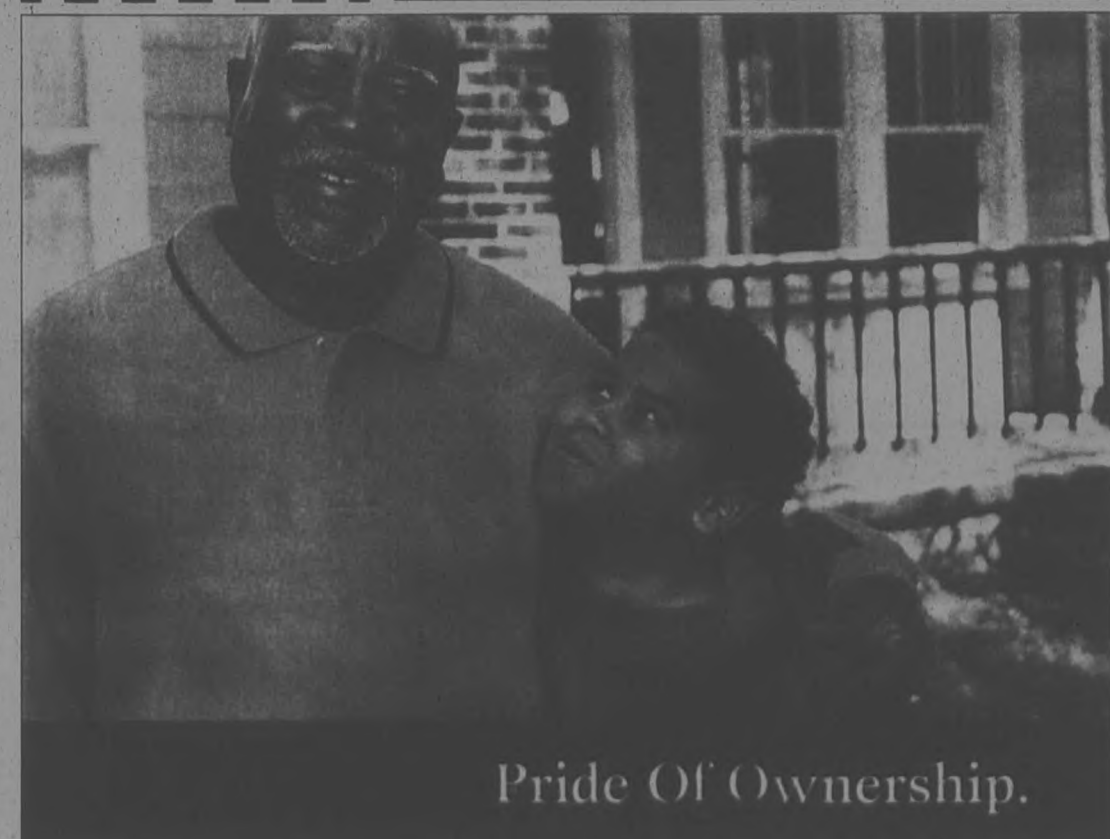
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AUCTIONS

ABSOLUTE AUCTION. Real Estate & Travel Center & 4+/- acres for commercial development. 1.65, Birmingham, AL. March 30th, 1:00 a.m. JP King Auction Company. 1-800-558-5464. JCraig King, AL AUC #254 (R)

ABSOLUTE AUCTION information 1-256-233-5110 or www.westmidstatesauctioneers.com. Mid-States, J.E. Mitchell, AAL#822.

AUCTION: BANKRUPTCY Court Ordered. Saturday, March 27 - 10 a.m. 1800 Triple H Ranch Rd. Bessemer, AL. Decorator gift items. Cash, Trucks, HD Cycles. For brochure call Joe Pant Annuener, Inc. 1-205-652-6776. AL1349.

AUCTION, MACON County, AL. April 10th, 274+/- acres, huge plantation and new log home. Absolute above \$300,000 bid. J.P. King Auction Co. 1-800-558-5464. JCraig King, AL AUC#554.

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YARD SALES

ESTATE YARD SALE - 2241 County Road 224, Corner of 224 & Hwy. 87, 8 Miles North of Elba. MARCH 20, 8:00 - 12:00 Noon. 3-11-2c

MOVING SALE

Wisher, Dryer, Old Pie Safe, Antiques, Furniture, Musical Instruments, Compend Box, Guns, Hand Made Quilts, Oak Table and Chairs, Two 50's Table and Chairs, Upright Freezer, Antique Hutch, Lined, Clothes, Desk, Much Much More! 444 Smith Ave. Elba, AL 334-897-8316 SAT-URDAY, MARCH 20! 7A.M. - 7? Don't Miss It! 3-18-1c

ELBA FLEA MARKET OPEN 1st & 3rd Saturdays, Free Set Up. Saturday, April 3rd, Contact Pat Powell 334-897-1550 or 897-6864. 3-4-8p

FLEA MARKET

ELBA FLEA MARKET OPEN 1st & 3rd Saturdays, Free Set Up. Saturday, April 3rd, Contact Pat Powell 334-897-1550 or 897-6864. 3-4-8p

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THE DEPT ANTIQUES relocated Hwy. 331 South of Opp, 1/8 Mile Past Bypass. 20-40% OFF Sale Open Monday-Saturday 9-5. Booth Space Available. 485-9339. 1-29-1c

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Troy King to be honored with reception in Montgomery



Troy King

A reception honoring newly appointed Attorney General Troy King will be held Tuesday, March 30, 5 - 7 p.m. on the Terrace Level of the RSA Plaza at 770 Washington Ave., in downtown Montgomery.

The RSA Plaza is located at the corner of Washington Ave. and Ripley St. in downtown Montgomery, with the State House directly across Washington Ave. and the Alabama State Employees' Credit Union across Ripley St. Parking will be available in the RSA Plaza parking deck, and the Adams Ave. entrance should be used. Gov. Bob Riley is scheduled to attend the event. The public is cordially invited to attend.

House directly across Washington Ave. and the Alabama State Employees' Credit Union across Ripley St. Parking will be available in the RSA Plaza parking deck, and the Adams Ave. entrance should be used. Gov. Bob Riley is scheduled to attend the event. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Register to Win Fun Money Certificates for Coffee County Arts Alliance Piney Woods 30th Annual Art Festival April 17th & 18th

Saturday: 9:30 - 5:00 p.m. Sunday Noon-4:00 p.m.

In Cooperation with Enterprise-Ozark Community College (formerly Enterprise State Junior College) Located on Hwy. 12 & 84 Bypass-Enterprise, A. The Piney Woods Arts Festival Cash Certificate Program is sponsored by Coffee County Arts Alliance and your local businesses. Register at the following locations to win free fun money to be spent at the 30th Annual Piney Woods Arts Festival. Drawing to be held Monday, April 10th.

Winners will be notified by mail



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Carlisle's On Main
Center Drug Co.
Dack Auto Service, Inc.
David's Westgate Beauty Salon
Enterprise Medical Clinic
Enterprise Wholesale
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Covington Electric Cooperative will sponsor 10 students from local participating high schools to attend the 2004 Alabama Rural Electric Association Youth Tour in Montgomery, Ala. Participants are shown above front row, from left: Mark Parker, CEC employee; Gloria Rayborn, Brantley guidance counselor; Amy Kelley, Pleasant Home; Jessica Rambo, Straughn; Grant Ballard, Straughn; Brittany Walker, Brantley; Carly Lundy, Pleasant Home and Judy Scott, Pleasant Home teacher. Back row, from left: Linda Varner, Straughn guidance counselor; Jill Smith, Brantley; Tori McClain, Red Level; Erika Griswold, Samson; Christen Walter, Red Level; Jay Mikel, Samson assistant principal and Patty Singleton-Seay, CEC employee. Not pictured: Ashley Burkett, Samson.

Area students participate in Covington Electric Cooperative Youth Tour

Ten students from the five participating high schools in Covington Electric Cooperative's (CEC) service area were recently selected to participate in the Alabama Rural Electric Association (AREA) Youth Tour in Montgomery, Ala. Youth Tour participants will enjoy a three-day trip April 6-8 that includes tours of the Alabama State Capitol, Alabama State House, Rosa Parks museum, and much more. The students will see a play at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and participate in a youth leadership conference. The students will also attend the AREA Annual Meeting Banquet held in the Montgomery Civic Center.

Students from high schools in CEC's service area compete annually through an essay and

interview competition for the opportunity to attend the AREA Youth Tour and for a week-long, all expense paid trip to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. During the interview competition, held March 4 at LBW College, a three-judge panel interviewed the participants and ranked them based on their responses. The two highest ranking students, Tori McClain of Red Level High School and Jill Smith of Brantley High School, were chosen to represent CEC at the Washington Youth Tour in June. Grant Ballard of Straughn High School and Brittany Walker of Brantley High School, were chosen as Washington alternates.

Each year, CEC sponsors stu-

dents to attend the state and national Youth Tours. The purpose of the Youth Tour is to inform young people about how cooperatives benefit their members, to provide an opportunity to see government in action, and to meet other young people from across the state and nation while visiting historical sites and landmarks.



VENEECIA MAGWOOD, age 8, of Elba returned home Saturday, March 6, from the 45th Annual Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo as a contest winner. While at the rodeo, Magwood competed in the Buck Dancing Contest and received the title of youth winner. She is shown above holding the trophy she was awarded for her buck dancing skills. Veneecia is the daughter of Tina and Steve Magwood of Elba.

AHF announces Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarship

The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF) is pleased to announce the second annual Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarship, benefiting kindergarten through sixth grade teachers. This is a professional development opportunity for teachers to receive a \$1,000 scholarship to enhance his or her teaching abilities by attending a seminar of institute, purchasing classroom materials or offering a class field trip. Scholarships will be exclusively in the subject areas of history and civics.

Selection will be based on the teacher's commitment to encouraging students and an appreciation of our forefathers and America, helping students to understand history, instilling an awareness and an appreciation of our forefathers and heritages, building civic pride, and teaching the value of public service. Applicants must teach in an accredited public school in the state of Alabama.

The Scholarship may be used for any purpose to advance the recipient's knowledge and teaching skills.

The application deadline is May 15, 2004. Applications with a short essay should be mailed to Alabama Humanities Foundation, Attn: Selection Committee, 1100 Ireland Way, Suite 101, Birmingham, AL 35205. Please contact the Alabama Humanities Foundation at (205) 558-3980 to receive a copy of the application or visit the website at www.ahf.net.

SCHOOLS

EHS Ambassadors read to elementary students

by Mary Katherine Head

Elba Elementary School students participated in Read Across America on March 2, 2004. The celebrated day was in honor of Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday.

As part of the celebration, high school students went to EES and read to each class at 2 p.m. The readers for the classes were primarily Elba High School Ambassadors; it served as one of their community service projects.

The following ambassadors read to a classroom: Ayonna Procter, Alex Allen, Brittany Cooper, Hannah Martin, Blake Brunson, Kaci Grantham, Anna Anderson, Lyndsay Lawford, Jennifer Grissett, Kristi Spinks, Katie Dyess, Bradley Bane, Leanna Sutley, Karrie Copeland, Jessica Dantford, Colby Capps, Ben Dye, Rebecca English, Meredith English, Lucy Carlile, Alex Benbow and Jennifer Waters.

Though not ambassadors, Jessie Schultz, Allison Smith, Ashley Gibson, Mallory Allen, Cameron Irwin, Carlos Arzo, Justin Foushee and Kristin Barnes were also gracious enough to give of their time.

Co-Op Spotlight

by Katie Driggers

This week's Co-Op Spotlight is John Anthony Waddall Jr., also known as Andy.

Andy is the 18-year-old son of John and Becky Waddall. He is in the 12th grade at Elba High School and is employed at Boyd Farms working in cattle.

He is president of the Future Farmers of America, a member of VICA and a member of the Alabama Junior Cattleman's Association.

In Andy's spare time he enjoys hunting, fishing, riding dirt roads, doing farm work and showing cattle.

Congratulations Andy and keep up the good work!

by Meredith English

Elba Elementary School Menu March 29 - April 2, 2004

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - Cheese Toast, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Pizza, Broccoli w/ Peaches, Milk
Tuesday - Waffles & Syrup, Link Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Chicken Sandwich, Corn, Green Beans, Mixed Fruit, Milk
Wednesday - Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Chili w/ Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Cheese Sandwich, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Thursday - Scrambled Eggs, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Burrito w/ Cheese, Rice, Salsa, Green Salad, 1/2 Apple, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday - Hoagie, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, French Fries, Cookies, Milk

Band Day pageant set for April 9

The annual Elba High School Band Pageant will be Friday, April 9, at 6 p.m. at the Elba High School Auditorium.

The entry fee for the pageant is \$15. Contestants for the Tiny Miss and Little Miss categories are asked to wear Sunday dresses while the contestants for the Jr. Miss and Miss categories are asked to wear formal dresses.

A practice has been scheduled for Thursday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m., at the Elba High School Auditorium.

EHS Band Day set for April 10

Elba High School's "Band Day" will be held Saturday, April 10, on the square in downtown Elba. Activities will include a BBQ dinner, bake sale, beauty pageant, all day music by both the Elementary and High School bands, and other entertainment.

Also included will be the third annual "Chair Auction," and band officers are searching for chairs - already finished or ones that can be restored; these include stools, swings, benches, unique artwork, etc. Also available for sale will be artwork by local artists.

Funds from the annual event,



Elba High School Ambassadors

When the high school students first arrived at the elementary school, they were served refreshments such as pound cake, cheese straws, chex mix and sodas. Then the volunteers read and picked out the book they wanted to read. All of the books that could be chosen were Accelerated Reader books.

Each teacher had already selected a book they wanted read to their classroom; therefore, all of the students went to a

specific teacher's classroom according to the book they chose.

They were then picked up by the EES Student Council Representatives from the classroom they were supposed to read to and escorted to their allotted classroom.

Once there, the volunteers read to the students, adding their own personal touches by ad-libbing and so forth. The elementary school students were also able to ask the volunteers any

questions they might have had about high school.

Once the high school students took an Accelerated Reader test on the book that was read to them.

It was a special treat for both sets of students, at the elementary school and high school.

Each volunteer that read to a classroom is thanked for giving of their time and aiding in the encouragement of the importance of reading.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for the 2004-2005 school year at Elba Elementary School will be March 18th and 19th from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm. at the elementary school.

The child must turn 5-years-old on or before Sept. 2 in order to register.

Parents should bring an Alabama shot record, a birth certificate, and Social Security card with them at the time of registration.

Please bring your child with you to registration so that he or she may be screened for vision and hearing problems. Please call the school office at (334) 897-5574 for more information or if you have any questions.

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'00 BUICK LESABRE - custom - like new - great price

'03 ASTRO VAN LS - AT-6 - only 12k miles

'97 JEEP WRANGLER SAHRA - AT-6 - hardtop

'03 IMPALA SEDAN - AT-6 - under factory warranty - two to choose from - only **\$14,900**

'01 MAZDA MITA - one owner - 13,000 miles - extra clean

'03 F-150 SUPER DUTY 4X4 - extra clean - lariat leather

'01 EXPEDITION - EDDIE BAUER - leather - moon roof - loaded

'02 FORD F-150 LARIAT - 4wd - supercab - local one owner - extra clean

'03 CHEVROLET S-10 CREW CAB - 4 X 4 - AT-6 - like new - only 14k miles - all the extras

'00 CHEV Z-71 - ex cab - sharp - must see - AT-8

'02 CHEVROLET EX CAB 4 X 4 - only 27,000 miles - local trade

'03 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS - loaded with features - w/leather - only 14m miles

'98 FORD F-150 XLT - super cab - AT-8 - great buy

'03 EXPEDITION - Eddie Bauer - loaded w/features including leather seats & moon roof - local trade - low miles

'97 FORD F-150 - reg cab - one owner - extra clean

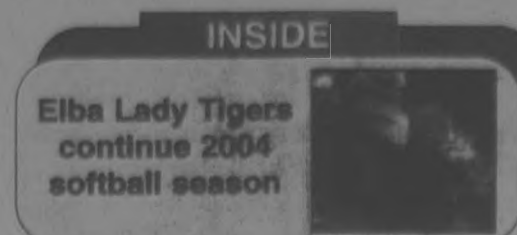
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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 25, 2004

1 Section, 14 Pages

Body found in wooded area

Natural causes determined in Elba man's untimely death

The search for a missing Elba man ended last Wednesday, March 17, when his body was discovered in a wooded area.

The family of Charlie Jeff Johnson, age 39, of Elba, reported him missing Tuesday, March 16. At that time, no one had spoken to or seen him since Friday, March 12.

Johnson's body was discovered early Wednesday afternoon in the wooded area across the street from his father's home on Taylor Mill Road.

According to Elba Police Chief R.W. Whitworth, a joint

investigation between the Elba Police Department, Twelfth Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office, the Coffee County Coroner's Office and the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences began immediately after Johnson was found.

The Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences conducted the post mortem examination which revealed Johnson died of natural causes.

Funeral services for Mr. Johnson were held Monday, March 22, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home.

Commission rejects motions regarding County Road 517

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

During the regular bimonthly meeting, the Coffee County Commission again found itself Monday, March 22, facing questions regarding the paving of County Road 517.

Faye Griswold, a New Brockton bus driver, addressed commissioners, and she said in the 31 years she has been a bus driver this road has always been a hazard.

"It's a one-way road, and it's difficult to meet vehicles," she said. "I've also gotten stuck countless times."

In regards to getting stuck, Griswold said she is not allowed to leave the younger students unattended unless the bus is an older student on the bus to make responsible, therefore, she said there have been times when she was forced to make the younger students walk with her in the mud to find assistance.

Griswold said the road is very slippery when wet, and it is scary when the back of the bus starts sliding whether there are children on the bus or she is alone.

"I would like to see it (the road) paved," she said.

County engineer Randy Tindell was asked to respond to Griswold's remarks, and he said the county's policy with the county school system is that bus drivers report road problems to their transportation supervisor, and he reports to Tindell.

Following the March 8 commission meeting, Tindell said he contacted the school system's transportation supervisor, and he did not relate a problem to the road.

"We (Tindell, Griswold and the transportation supervisor) need to sit down and talk," he said.

In regards to being slippery when wet, Tindell said the only thing to do would be to put more rocks on the road, but there were complaints at the last commission meeting regarding too many rocks on the road already.

County Road 517 has been approved for paving by the commission; however, there has been ongoing trouble getting right-of-way deeds from all landowners. As of Monday's meeting, only two landowners had not signed right-of-way deeds - one in Commissioner Robert Stephens' district and one in Commissioner Bernest Brooks' district.

Following Tindell's remarks, Stephens offered a motion to pay the landowner in his district \$1,200 for her right-of-way.

"This is something I've never done but am willing to do to get the road paved," he said.

Brooks offered a second to the motion then asked to amend it by adding that the landowner in his district be paid the total cost per acre for the right-of-way as it was surveyed and analyzed.

Brooks said this landowner agreed to \$4,000 per acre, and the parcel of land is eight tenths of an acre.

The parcel of land for Stephens' landowner is 35 one hundredths of an acre.

Commissioner Linda Westbrook asked if this equates to both landowners being paid the same amount per acre, and the answer was no. She said she feels both should be paid the same amount per acre.

Stephens supplied the second for the amendment offered by Brooks; however, he expressed some reservations.

The amendment failed to pass.

Please See CCC, Page 2

Green announces candidacy for District 2 commission seat

Joe Green of the Victoria

Joe Green of the Victoria community has announced his plans to seek election as county commissioner in District 2, on the Democratic ticket. Green is married to Erma Shiver Green. They have one daughter, Samella Williamson.

In his announcement, Green pledged his dedication and hard work to help the county grow. He said he would give a reliable and complete follow-up of citizen's suggestions and never be too busy to listen and communicate with the people of District 2.

Green feels the commission has done an outstanding job serving Coffee County. If elected, he looks forward to working with the people of District 2 and the Coffee County commission.

Green has been established in business for over 30 years. As former owner of Green's Country Kitchen, "Service Above Self" was his business motto. He plans to use the same motto if elected to the commission.

Green wants to serve the people in District 2 to the best of his ability and will use his years of business experience along with what the people want and need in his district to continue growth in Coffee County.

Joe and Erma attend Victoria Baptist Church in the Victoria community.

New Brockton dedicates peanut butter monument

by Linda Hodge, Editor

New Brockton citizens gathered Saturday afternoon, March 20, for the dedication of the town's peanut butter monument with special recognition for Mr. Rayfield Reynolds of Elba.

The monument was placed in the New Brockton Town Park, located next to the town hall offices.

"We've reached a goal that has long been desired by Mr. Reynolds," said New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole.

Reynolds, an employee of the Southland Peanut Butter Company, has long desired the establishment of a peanut butter monument reminding New Brockton citizens of the town's history regarding the production of peanut butter.

Boyd Murphree, son of the company's founder - F. H. Murphree, said during the early '30s his father built a warehouse in New Brockton for peanut shelling and later turned it into a peanut butter manufacturing plant. It operated until about 1939 when the plant was destroyed by fire.

He said Reynolds was an employee of the company and proved to be very thrifty.

Carrie Norman Trawick, also an employee of the company, shared memories during



Rayfield Reynolds (far left) and New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole (right) look on as Jessica Ray Jones, great-granddaughter of Mr. Reynolds, reads the peanut butter monument's inscription. Assisting Reynolds and Cole with the unveiling were Miss New Brockton Sonya Hornsby, Little Miss New Brockton Destiny Patterson, Future Little Miss New Brockton Melissa Hutto and Junior Miss New Brockton Whitney Donaldson.

Saturday's dedication ceremony of working at the peanut butter plant, and she said it was work.

She mentioned remembering a time when she had worked about 50 hours one week and made \$5.40.

"I went to the dentist in

Dothan, and he took all my money except 40 cents," she said laughing.

Reynolds said the company had seven trucks running night and day in New Brockton, and in developing this product, Mr. Murphree told him, "If you've

got the brains, I've got the money."

With that, he said they put brains and money together and came up with the number one peanut butter.

"People working together. That's why we have a monument today," Reynolds said.

Stephens seeks reelection to District Three commission seat

Robert G. Stephens made it official qualifying day, March 9, that he will seek re-election as the Coffee County Commissioner for District Three.

Born and raised in Coffee County, Stephens is a retired

During the Coffee County Commission meeting Monday, March 22, commissioners congratulated county engineer Randy Tindell for being named by the Engineer's Association as Engineer of the Year.

"I couldn't have done this anywhere else," Tindell said. "Coffee County gave me the privilege to be here and work with good people."

He thanked commissioners for being aggressive in making good decisions for the county and credited their hardwork in helping him achieve this honor.

Commissioner Linda Westbrook said she really appreciates all Tindell has done, especially for District One, while commissioner Tom Grimsley jokingly asked if this honor means Coffee County will be rated number one in the state for roads and bridges next year (it

of World War II. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force as a bomber pilot. His tour of duty included 18 months overseas with the 15th Air Force during which time he flew combat missions over Italy and Germany.

Stephens, currently chairman of the commission, is a veteran



Randy Tindell

ranked number two this year behind Houston county).

Tindell said the jury is still out on that one.

Stephens pledges to continue to keep the county buildings in District Three in good condition.

"The Coffee County Courthouse in Elba is 100+ years old this year, and I have been in a position to see that many improvements have been made to this facility during the past years I have been in

office," Stephens said. "We are all proud of this historic building."

Stephens said he thanks the people of District Three for their past support of his candidacy and asks for their continued support on June 2.

"If elected, I renew my pledge to be honest, to be conservative with the taxpayer's money, and I will serve everyone fair and equitably realizing that the taxpayers are my boss," he said.

Stephens further states that his experience and increased knowledge of county government will enable him to better serve the people of this area.



A \$50,000 GRANT CHECK was handed to Elba Mayor James Grimes on Tuesday of this week. The money is to complete the funding of the new, modern, \$2.5 million Animal Diagnostic Lab now under construction immediately behind the existing lab building. Presenting the check on behalf of Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture Ron Sparks was Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture Glenn Zorn. This raises the grant funds the City of Elba has received for this project to \$190,000. In addition, U.S. Senator Richard Shelby secured a \$750,000 federal grant for a state-of-the-art Alkaline Tissue Digester, the first known installation of this equipment in the South. It will greatly aid in controlling the spreading of animal diseases if some is discovered in animals being tested at the lab by dissolving all the tissues and neutralizing the diseases.

The new lab facility a priority for the Wiregrass area. It will benefit both farmers and consumers by continually improving food safety. Zorn also expressed the Commissioner's appreciation to Senator Jimmy Holley, Representative Terry Spicer and Mayor Grimes for helping this project become a reality.

Pictured from left to right are Dr. John Gamble, Department of Agriculture; Senator Holley, Zorn, Grimes and Joel Cline, director of the Elba lab.